Rush alumnus puts the "care" in health care

by Judy Grossman

"What do you want to say to Dr. Jordan?" the mother asks her son. The boy sheepishly says he's sorry. "And why are you sorry?" the mother prompts. "'Cause I didn't act very nice in Dr. Jordan's office yesterday," the boy responds.

Robert A. Jordan, MD '76, who has watched this exchange without interrupting, is swift with forgiveness — and a smile for his young patient, just to show there are no hard feelings.

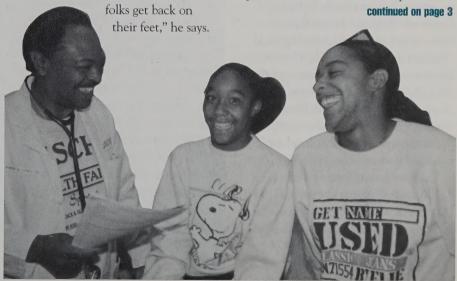
When the family leaves his office, Jordan admits he doesn't recall the boy having behaved especially badly. It is a sign of respect for him, though, that this woman brought her son back the day after his appointment for the sole purpose of apologizing.

But then, Jordan has done a lot to earn the respect of his patients and their families. His pediatric practice in Olympia Fields, Ill., is thriving, just as it previously thrived in Homewood and Chicago Heights, because he bases it — and also his life — on the motto "treat everybody as if they are somebody."

That's why Jordan and his wife, Jeanette, established the not-for-profit Far South Side Community Health Center more than a decade ago. The center holds health fairs that provide free back-to-school exams, immunizations and dental screenings — and even food during the holiday season — for 800 to 900 kids each year.

Jordan also participates in Access to Care, a program that helps people find jobs or get on Medicaid. "It's a great feeling to help It's no coincidence that Jordan takes community involvement seriously. After all, he received his medical training at Rush, where community service goes hand in hand with patient care, education and research. None other than James A. Campbell, MD, one of the founders of the reactivated Rush Medical College, lectured Jordan and his classmates about the importance of treating all patients equally, regardless of their race, religion or financial status — a somewhat radical concept in the socially turbulent early '70s.

Jordan appreciated Campbell's philosophy on both a personal and a professional level. Incredibly, he had passed the MCAT after his sophomore



Robert Jordan, MD '76, shares a laugh with a young patient and her mother at his Olympia Fields office.

A legacy of compassion: Mila Pierce Rhoads, MD '25

by Jill Waite

Advocate, mentor, veteran, healer.

These are just a few words used to describe Mila Pierce Rhoads, MD, '25, who died in 1997. Although she has been gone four years, she is still remembered for her tireless work on behalf of children with cancer and her refusal to give up that work, even when time seemed to be against her. And thanks to a gift she made to the pediatric oncology program at Rush upon her death, she will continue to ensure that children with cancer receive the best of care for years to come.

"Although I never met Mila herself, I've heard many stories of her unwaivering commitment to children," says Samuel P. Gotoff, MD, chairman of the department of pediatrics. "Her final gesture really exemplifies that."

In 1983, at the age of 82, Pierce was named distinguished alumna of the year by Rush in recognition of her 50-plus years of service as a pediatric hematologist/oncologist. During those years, Pierce worked in many places, but her focus remained the same: to help children.

Her career began at Children's Memorial Hospital but was interrupted by World War II, when she volunteered to serve in England at the Royal Liverpool Children's Hospital in Birmingham and the Hospital for Sick Children in London. In 1943, Pierce became one of the first women to join the U.S. Army Medical Corp as a physician. Yet she had to design her own uniform and share quarters with the nurses, not with the other physicians, all of whom were male.

After the war, Pierce returned to Chicago's Children's Memorial Hospital as an attending physician and began her academic career as an assistant professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Chicago, where she later became an associate professor and then professor. But



They graduated from Rush Medical College together in 1925, but Mila Pierce, MD, and Paul S. Rhoads, MD, didn't marry until more than 58 years later. Here, Paul presents his future wife with the 1983 Distinguished Alumna Award.

mandatory retirement eventually reared its head, sending Pierce in search of a medical center where she could continue to work. Northwestern University welcomed her with open arms, as did her former employer, Children's Memorial Hospital. But in six years, Pierce was once again on the verge of being pushed out because of her age. There was one place, though, that recognized Pierce's strengths despite her advancing age — and that place was Rush.

At the age of 71, Pierce found herself back where she had first discovered her true love of medicine. The second time around, she discovered her other true love — fellow Rush Medical College alumnus Paul S. Rhoads, MD '25. Rhoads, who presented Mila with the Distinguished Alumna Award in 1983, later became her husband.

Pierce is remembered fondly at Rush for the close and lasting relationships she developed with her patients and her endless supply of energy. "Often when I take an elevator, I think of Mila," says Alan Korenblit, MD, pediatric hematologist/oncologist at Rush. "Even at her age, she would always take the stairs."



Dr. Pierce, shown here chatting with a colleague, was a respected member of the Rush faculty and staff.

Korenblit considered Pierce his mentor, as did many others, including Steve Gitelis, MD '75, associate chairman and professor in the Department of Orthopedic Surgery, director of the section of orthopedic oncology and past president of the Alumni Association. "She was wonderful with children and possessed such incredible confidence," Gitelis says. "I was especially impressed with her ability to cope with such devastating diseases in children."

How does Rush measure up?

Larry J. Goodman, MD, the Henry P. Russe, MD, Dean of Rush Medical College and Senior Vice President of Medical Affairs

ach year, students graduating from medical schools across the country are asked to complete an extensive questionnaire, and the Division of Medical Education of the Association of American Medical Colleges collates the responses. Schools then receive a report on how their students responded to questions and a comparison of their results with national figures.

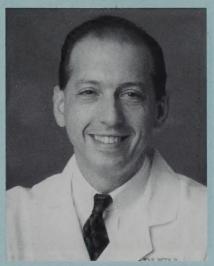
This questionnaire is an important part of the way we evaluate our school and the environment in which we teach. Because this is one of the few benchmarked evaluations of student satisfaction, I thought it was important to share some of the results with the Rush community.

The basic sciences

More than 90 percent of Rush students reported that the basic science objectives were made clear to them, compared with 84 percent of students nationally. Seventy-six percent of Rush students thought the basic science courses were sufficiently integrated and coordinated, while 69 percent of graduates from all schools responded positively to this question. Seventy-four percent of Rush students said the basic science courses had illustrations of clinical relevance (60 percent nationally), 64 percent felt the courses developed or sharpened problem-solving skills (57 percent nationally) and 80 percent said the courses provided relevant preparation for clerkships (64 percent nationally). Finally, more than 23 percent of students reported spending at least 50 percent of their time in case-based learning experiences, compared with less than 9 percent of the national pool.

The clinical courses

Eighty-four percent of Rush students reported that they were given sufficient clinical skills preparation for clerkships,



Larry J. Goodman, MD

compared with 76 percent of the national respondents. Ninety-one percent of students believed that the number of patient experiences in clerkships was appropriate (88 percent nationally), 80 percent reported that the student was expected to demonstrate use of current evidence-based medicine in patient care (75 percent nationally) and 79 percent reported that the clerkships were well organized (76 percent nationally). Finally, 94 percent of students either strongly agreed or agreed that they were confident they had acquired the clinical skills required to begin a residency program.

Striving for perfection

Although our results compare favorably with national figures, we are still not completely satisfied. That's why the curriculum committee has been hard at work on even more innovations — innovations we believe will make Rush an even better place to train. Ninety-three percent of students in the class of 2000 reported that they were satisfied with the quality of their medical education (versus 87 percent nationally); but while this is impressive, our goal is even higher.

Jordan

continued from page 1

year of college and was accepted to Rush after just three years — two at Loop City College and one at the University of Illinois Circle campus. But because of his abbreviated undergraduate career, and because he was one of only six African-American students in his class, acceptance in the classrooms at Rush did not always come as easily.

"Some of the faculty were skeptical at first because of my background," Jordan admits. "This one professor told me, 'I'm going to be keeping an eye on you,' and I said, 'Very well, because if you're looking at me, I'll be looking at you.' He just kind of smiled and walked away. As it turns out, that was the start of a wonderful and lasting friendship."

After making a strong impression on Rush faculty members and physicians during medical school, Jordan stayed on at Rush for his residency in pediatrics and became the Medical Center's first African-American chief resident. He chose pediatrics because he loved children and felt he could have a profound impact on their lives.

And he has. Whether he's helping a high school senior with a skyhigh ACT score get into the Air Force Academy, or ensuring that a clinically depressed mother receives the treatment she needs to take proper care of her children, Jordan's role in his patients' lives extends far beyond that of physician. He is their advocate, role model, spiritual advisor and, most of all, trusted friend.

"Every family hopefully thinks of their pediatrician as an extension of their family, so they are willing to share things with you, and you can solve their problems not only with a prescription pad, but in the very social fabric of the family," Jordan says. "That's how you help build strong families and, as a result, a strong community."

Alumni involvement spells success

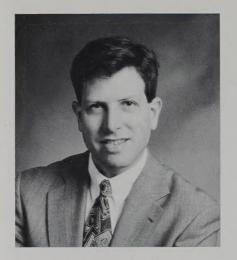
by Paul J. Jones, MD, Alumni Association president

want to begin this column with a few words of thanks to everyone who took the time to complete and return the alumni survey that was included in the last issue of *Rush MD*. As the Alumni Association moves ahead with planning over the coming months and years, your answers and suggestions will help us direct our resources to the areas that hold the greatest value for the greatest number of Rush alumni.

The gift of education

I also want to thank those of you who responded to my call for increased support of student aid at Rush. The debt facing today's medical students is staggering, and there is no doubt that high tuition costs are largely to blame for the shrinking pool of medical school applicants we are experiencing — not just at Rush, but around the country. Everything we do to alleviate this burden, now and into the future, will benefit both Rush and the nation.

Unfortunately, student debt isn't the only problem we face today. I don't



Paul J. Jones, MD '83

need to tell any of you about the toll that the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 is taking on health care. Yet as much as the whole country is hurting from these cuts to Medicare, academic medical centers such as Rush have been hit particularly hard. Our special missions — to investigate new treatments, treat the uninsured and teach tomorrow's doctors — rely heavily on Medicare, and that support is rapidly dwindling.

The first mission of any hospital is patient care, and the care offered at Rush remains topnotch, as does the teaching. But as I think most of you will agree, what we learned in the classroom and on rotations is only a part of what makes us Rushtrained physicians. The other opportunities we had - to do research, serve the community and meet with our future colleagues across the country and around

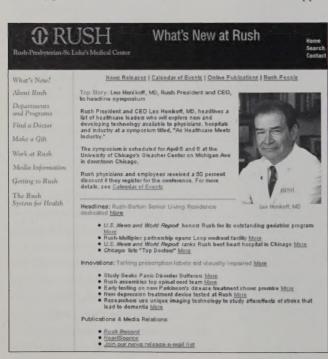
the world — are what truly made us the well-rounded doctors we are today. These opportunities cannot be allowed to become luxuries. And what keeps many of these programs and fellowships up and running? Alumni giving. I hope you will continue to heed the call, because your support has never been more important.

Do you want to know more?

I hope that you enjoy hearing from us, that the news Rush MD brings to you twice each year — about your classmates and about Rush — is valuable to you. But would you like to hear more, and more frequently? If so, check out What's New, Rush's newly launched online mini-magazine, at www.rush.edu/patients/new. Surfing its pages and links, you'll find all the latest about Rush, from exciting new research and discoveries to stories about Rush employees and patients. And for the freshest updates, sign up for Rush's electronic news release mailing list, www.rush.edu/patients/ media/maillist.html. You can choose to be notified about all releases or just those in the areas of your interest. Either way, you'll get the news the same second that the newspapers and networks do — and days and weeks before anyone else does.

Reunion reminder

Speaking of newsworthy events, Reunion 2001 is coming up fast: June 8 and 9. If you are in a Reunion Class ('41, '76, '81, '86, '91, '96), you will receive a full invitation. If you are not a graduate from one of those years, see pages 8 and 11 for details or visit the web site at www.rush.edu/alumni. In an effort to conserve costs, we're mailing invitations to Reunion Classes only —but everyone is welcome!



Honor roll of donors

The following is a list of alumni who made philanthropic contributions to Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center between January 1 and December 31, 2000.

The Benjamin Rush Society, the premier giving society of Rush Medical College, comprises donors who make annual gifts of \$2,000 or more for use within the College. All Benjamin Rush Society members' names appear in bold. The Rush Heritage Society comprises individuals who have told us that they have invested in Rush's future through a provision in their wills, life income arrangements, or other estate plans. All Rush Heritage Society members' names appear in italics. For more information about joining either the Benjamin Rush Society or the Rush Heritage Society, please call Alumni Relations at (312) 942-7165.

In addition, we indicated those alumni who are volunteers on behalf of the Alumni Association with an asterisk.

We have made every effort to maintain accurate records, but if your name is listed incorrectly or omitted, we apologize and ask that you kindly call us at the number listed above and report the error so that we may correct it in the future. *Thank you*.

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continued on page 6

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KEY

Bold: Benjamin Rush Society
Italics: Rush Heritage Society
* Alumni Volunteer
+ Deceased

Enjoy a blast from the past at Alumni Weekend

Join your fellow Rush alumni June 8-9, 2001, for a reunion to remember.

From Grand Rounds to brunch with the dean to the Commencement

Banquet, you're sure to have a great time as you catch up with your classmates and learn about what's been happening at Rush since your graduation.

All alumni are welcome, but those classes celebrating special reunions include: 1941, 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991 and 1996. Please note that in an effort to conserve costs, if you are not in one of the classes listed above, this is the only notice for Alumni Weekend that you will receive. Thank you for your understanding.

Alumni Weekend 2001

June 7, 8 & 9, 2001 Calendar of Events

Thursday, June 7

4 - 5 p.m.

Meeting of the Executive Council Board Room, Room 500

6 - 8 p.m.

Benjamin Rush Society Reception and Annual Meeting Hosted by Dr. and Mrs. Leo M. Henikoff Robert W. Sessions House 601 South Loomis

Friday, June 8

ALUMNI DAY AT THE MEDICAL CENTER Registration Fee: \$25

8 a.m.

Hospitality Room Opens Room 994, Armour Academic Center

8 - 9 a.m.

Alumni Grand Rounds Room 976, Armour Academic Center

9 - 10 a.m.

Clinicopathological Conference Presented by Class of 2001 student, elected by class. Room 976, Armour Academic Center

10 - 11:45 a.m.

Brunch with the Dean and Annual Meeting of Alumni Association Billings/Herrick Rooms 531/543 Searle Conference Center

1 - 4:00 p.m.

Rush Surgical Society Meeting
Featuring: The 15th Annual Frederic
A. de Peyster Rush Alumnus Lecture
presented by Paul J. Jones, MD,
President, Alumni Association
of Rush Medical College and Rush
Surgical Society
Room 542, Searle Conference Center

COMMENCEMENT BANQUET

Featuring the presentation of the Distinguished Alumnus Award at the Hotel Inter-Continental Chicago, 505 North Michigan Avenue Tickets: \$60 per person

6 - 7 p.m.

Cocktail Reception
Empire Ballroom

7 - Midnight

Banquet/Program/Dancing
Grand Ballroom

Saturday, June 9

2 p.m.

Commencement Exercises University of Illinois at Chicago Pavilion 525 S. Racine Avenue

5:30 p.m.

Class Party

at Soldier Field (see page 11 for details) Chicago Fire Soccer Game Chicago Fire vs. Columbus Crew Tickets: \$32 per person (children under 2 free)

For further information, please contact the Alumni Relations Office at (312) 942-2569, or send an e-mail to Marva_B_Starks@rush.edu. To register for Alumni Weekend events, visit the Alumni Relations web site at www.rush.edu/alumni. There, you will find a registration form, plus hotel and travel information.



Class Notes

On the following pages, Rush Medical College alumni from around the globe share their professional and personal achievements. To let your classmates learn what you've been up to, fill out the "What's New With You?" card on page 11 of this issue or write to: the Alumni Association of Rush Medical College, 1700 W. Van Buren St., Suite 250, Chicago, IL 60612. Or send e-mail to: MaryPat Mauro@rush.edu

1930s

ALLAN A. FILEK, MD '33, returned to Chicago for his son-in-law's retirement party last year. He is now taking computer lessons, calls bingo twice a month, enjoys acting and just added 45 pages to his autobiography.



Lee Bass gets a congratulatory hug after learning that he'll be going to St. Louis Children's Hospital to do his residency in nediatrics.



Match Day comes but once a year — and for the Class of 2001, March 22 was the big day. Chantel de la Rocha (left) and Yolanda Cardenas were both thrilled with their matches. De la Rocha heads to the University of Southern California for her pediatrics residency, while Cardenas will be working in family medicine at West Suburban Hospital in Oak Park, III.

1940s

CHARLES M. GRACE, MD '41, enjoyed his years at Rush and found the staff and experiences helpful in meeting the problems life presented. He keeps in touch with several of his classmates, including Blake S. Talbot and George Asahina.

1970s

THOMAS RUSH, MD '78, has two children: Davis, 31/2, and Julia, 21/2.

EZRIEL EDWARD KORNEL, MD '78, is director for the Institute for Neuroscience in New York, vice president of the New York State Neurosurgical Society and assistant clinical professor of neurosurgery at Yale University.

1980s

MARY L. MORAN, MD '81, is a team physician for the US Olympic Biathlon

Team SLC 2002. She is also a rheumatologist at Illinois Bone & Joint Institute in Park Ridge, Ill.

SARAH T. LINCOLN, MD '81, returned to Rush 12 years ago as a medical oncologist. She now works part-time since the adoption of her 21/2 year old daughter, Phoebe, who is originally from Cambodia.

GREG E. SHARON, MD '82, has been chairman of CME for eight years at a local hospital and was recently asked to be the chairman of the Department of Medicine. He donates his week-ends and office staff to doing asthma screenings for the undeserved in his community.

GREG SMITH, MD '82, is getting great reviews for his medical conspiracy novel *Malpractice*, which is based on the true story of a corrupt HMO. He is currently working on his next novel,

continued on page 10

Class Notes

continued from page 9

Minutes. Earlier this year, he founded GetaTest, an internet service that enables people to order common medical tests without having to visit a doctor's office.

ANNE McCALL, MD '83, is director of radiation oncology at West Suburban Center for Cancer Care in River Forest, Ill. where she practices with many fellow Rush alums. She and her husband, Rick, live in River Forest, Ill., with their 4 children, ages 8-15.

STUART C. GILMAN, MD, MPH '83, received his MPH in Health Services from UCLA and was a Robert Wood Johnson/VA Clinical Scholar at UCSF. He was the 1994 recipient of the Alliance's William Campbell Felch/Wyeth Ayerst Award. Now overseeing CME for the VA's Employee Education System, he is responsible for one of the nation's largest CME programs, which is concluding as a Pilot Demonstration Project with ACCME.

IANIS MARIE ATKINSON, MD'86, is chairman for the Department of Pathology and director of laboratories at St. Francis Hospital.

IANICE KRAKORA-LOOBY, MD '87, was elected vice chair of the Department of Pediatrics at Lake Forest Hospital in Lake Forest, Ill.

1990s

KEVIN MAQUILING, MD '91, was selected along with 11 other accomplished Chicago-area cardiologists to evaluate candidates for the newly established Heart of Chicago Award. He is an interventional cardiologist at the Elmhurst Clinic.

BRANDON J. WILHELMI, MD '92, is an assistant professor of plastic surgery at SIU School of Medicine. His

specialties include microsurgery, breast, hand, cosmetic and reconstructive surgery. He is a member of Alpha Omega Alpha National Medical Honor Society and a candidate of the American Society of Plastic Sugeons and the American College of Surgeons. He is married to Erika Ortiz.

LYNN HAHNFELD-KRIEWALDT, MD '94, married Shawn Kriewaldt on July 22, 2000. She practices urology in Madison, Wis., at Dean West Healthcare.

JASON AARON BROWDY, MD '98, is in the third year of his orthopedic surgery residency. His wife recently had their first child.

Former Residents

JAMES E. ANTHONY JR., MD, is retired. He has published three books and travels overseas.

RICHARD L. SPERLING, MD, was re-elected to a three-year term as a member of the Board of Governors of the Illinois State Medical Inter-Insurance Exchange. He served for the past six years as a member of the Board, as well as the Risk Management Committee.

In Memoriam

1928

MARTHA J. BERNHEIM, MD '28, of Chicago, Ill., January 2001.

1930s

CHISATO HAYASHI, MD '34, of Kealakekua, Hawaii, May 2000.

ROBERT B. LEWY, MD '35, of Chicago, Ill., October 2000.

JOHN NEWDORP, MD '37, of Malvern, Penn., December 2000.

FLORENCE EILEEN LAWSON, MD '39, of Lincolnwood, Ill., October 28, 2000.

1940s

ROY T. TANOUE, MD '40, of Honolulu, Hawaii, January 2001.

AARON GROSSMAN, MD '41, of Winnetka, Ill., March 7, 2001.

JOSEPH L. PACE, MD '42, of Salt Lake City, Utah, December 27, 2000.



Geoff Crabb couldn't wait to share the news about his emergency medicine residency at Christ Hospital & Medical Center (in Chicago) with his family — and with classmate Brian Gantwerker (right), who will be a neurological surgery resident at Case Western Reserve in Ohio.



What's new with you?

Your Alumni Association wants to know what you've been up to. Please send your latest personal and professional news to Rush MD, c/o The Alumni Association of Rush Medical College, Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center, 1700 West Van Buren St., Suite 250, Chicago, IL 60612. You may also send news by fax to (312) 942-5581, or by e-mail to: Marva_B_Starks@rush.edu.

Class Year
☐ Home ☐ Office ☐ New?
State Zip
Home Phone

This year's class party sure to be a kick

reason to attend Alumni Weekend 2001: This year's class party, which takes place on Saturday, June 9, is going to be hot, hot, hot! We'll be heading to Soldier Field for dinner and to watch the Fire, Chicago's pro soccer team, scorch the nets against the Columbus Crew. See the calendar on page 8 for a complete listing of Alumni Weekend events — including meetings, conferences and lectures — or visit the alumni web site at www.rush.edu/alumni for additional information. We look forward to seeing you at Reunion on June 8 & 9!



Rus

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Please send your comments or suggestions to the editor at 1700 W. Van Buren, Suite 250, Chicago, IL 60612; (312) 942-3215. Or e-mail Judy_Grossman@rush.edu.

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Alumni Calendar

Meetings, Special Lectures and Events

Rush University

Continuing Medical Education Programs

Visit our web site at www.rush.edu/cme

Endowed Professorship Lecture Series of Rush University

The Endowed Professorship Lecture Series provides a forum for faculty members who hold endowed chairs to share information about their research with colleagues, other members of the Rush family and the community at large.

Tuesday, July 24

Joshua J. Jacobs, MD, The Crown Family Chair of Orthopedic Surgery "Total Joint Replacement in the 21st Century: The Impact of the Biotechnology Revolution"

Tuesday, September 25

Alexander Doolas, MD, The Steven G. Economou, MD, Professor of General

"Nicholas Senn, MD: A Man for All Seasons"

All Lectures will be held at 4:00 p.m. in the Searle Conference Center, 5th Floor, 1725 West Harrison Street.



Meetings/Events sponsored by the Alumni Association of **Rush Medical College**

White Coat Ceremony

Date: September 7 Time: 1:00 p.m.

Location: Lecture Hall 976, Armour

Academic Center

T.G.I.F. - Thank Goodness It's Friday

Date: September 14 Time: 4:30 p.m - 7:00 p.m. Location: Room 994, Armour

Academic Center

Alumni volunteers are needed to pour

beer and wine.

For additional information, contact Marva Starks, Office of Alumni Relations at 312-942-7227, or send e-mail to Marva_B_Starks@rush.edu.



Above: There were congratulations all around for soon-to-be residents (right to left) Dawn Belvis, Michael Zupancic, Bill Dimitropoulos and Peter Lux. Left: Nobuhisa Yamada and friend react to the exciting news that after a transitional year at the University of Chicago-Louis A. Weiss Program, he'll be doing his residency in anesthesiology at John Hopkins Hospital in Maryland.

The Alumni Association of Rush Medical College

Rush Medical College

Fall/Winter 2001-2002

Melody Cobleigh, MD '76: A modern-day Marcus Welby by Jill Waite



Seven years ago, Jean Boyll was diagnosed with breast cancer. Despite a mastectomy, the cancer invaded her chest wall, and subsequent chemotherapy sessions proved futile. But today Jean has no sign of the cancer that once threatened her life — a medical miracle made possible by a drug called Herceptin and a Rush doctor named Melody Cobleigh, MD '76.

For more than 20 years, Cobleigh has dedicated herself to treating patients with breast cancer, searching for the disease's cause and identifying ways to prevent it from developing. Her devotion to her patients is undeniable, and her commitment to finding a cure is unwaivering — so much so that one would think she was born with a stethoscope in one hand and a clipboard in the other. But for Cobleigh, the path to medicine was never that clear or that easy. It required heavy doses of encouragement, hard work and something that keeps plenty of talented young people from entering the field of medicine: financial support.

For Cobleigh, even college didn't seem like a sure thing. College, after all, costs money. But her brother and sister convinced her that with the help of the GI bill, social security benefits, grants, scholarships and a work study program, college was a definite possibility. And so she attended Northeastern University in Illinois, initially majoring in French before finding her way to psychology.

After graduating with honors, she worked in Northeastern's psychology department as a faculty assistant. But Cobleigh knew that what she was doing wasn't what she really wanted. She liked helping people, but she also wanted to be her own boss. And when she thought of someone whose career had both those qualities, one person

came to mind — television's Marcus Welby, MD. "Of course, back then I thought being a doctor meant going to people's homes and sitting around the kitchen table drinking coffee with them," she says.

So Cobleigh took her MCATs and applied early decision to the newly re-formed Rush University. "I applied early decision to Rush because there was only one application fee," she says. "I never thought I'd get in." She not only got in, but, with financial support, she graduated. And during her time at Rush, she had the opportunity to meet a real life Marcus Welby -Rush oncologist Janet Wolter, MD. "She had a sincere compassion for her patients and their families," Cobleigh says. "I watched her and I was hooked."

With Wolter as a role model, Cobleigh went on to specialize in oncology. Today, as director of the Rush Comprehensive Breast Center and Rush's Inherited Susceptibility to Cancer Program, she works in an office right next to Wolter's. And like her mentor, she has earned a great deal of respect from her peers for her groundbreaking work. In June, the Alumni Association of Rush Medical College honored Cobeigh with the 2001 Distinguished Alumna Award for her role in developing targeted cancer therapies, such as Herceptin and anti-VEGF (see RushRecord article on p. 24).

Teaming up to meet the needs of Rush alumni by Judy Grossman

Whether they are planning reunion, raising money for Rush University or tracking down long-lost classmates, the Alumni Relations team works hard to ensure that the needs of Rush alumni are met. Housed in the Office of Philanthropy and Communication, the four-person team is a Rush alum's link to the Alumni Association of Rush Medical College — and they love hearing from alumni.

"We want alumni to know that we're here for them — and we're just a phone call, e-mail or letter away," says director MaryPat Mauro, who has been head of the Alumni Relations team for two years.

MaryPat oversees all of the programmatic work her team undertakes. A seasoned fund-raiser with 15 years of experience under her belt, she also helps raise money to support the priorities of Rush Medical College, Rush College of Nursing and both alumni associations and works closely with the Benjamin Rush Society, the medical college's premier giving society.

"I'm the tie to the educational side of the Medical Center's mission," she says. "So if someone wanted to make a direct gift, or establish a named scholarship fund or chair, I would be a good place to start. I field a lot of inquiries from potential donors and process a large number of gifts."

Marva Starks, who has been at Rush for 16 years in various roles, joined the alumni team as assistant director of development five years ago. She coordinates the annual appeal mailings for alumni, but her primary responsibility is developing programs for the Alumni Association. Among the activities she coordinates are reunions, match day, T.G.I.F.s, phone-a-thons and an array of social gatherings.



The Alumni Relations team (left to right): Abby Peterson Vlahos, Marva Starks, MaryPat Mauro and Katie Madden

"There are always volunteer opportunities available with these events, and I want our alumni to feel comfortable calling me or any member of our team if they're interested in volunteering — or if they have an idea for a gathering," she says.

The main focus for assistant director of development Abby Peterson Vlahos is fund-raising. She is the alumni team's liaison to the Golden Lamp Society, the premier giving society for the Presbyterian-St. Luke's Nurses Alumni Association, and she is the primary link between nursing alumni and the board of directors of the Nurses Alumni Association. "Fund-raising is an important component of the board's work because the Alumni Association no longer charges dues," she says. "The budget for any alumni programs or support for the college and its students comes directly from donations."

Abby has worked in Philanthropy and Communication for two years, first as part of the corporate and foundation relations team. She joined Alumni Relations in January 1999.

The newest member of the team, development assistant Katie Madden, came to Rush shortly before Alumni Weekend 2001, and already she has impressed her fellow team members.

In addition to providing valuable administrative support, she is the official keeper of alumni records.

Rush represents a shift in career focus for Katie, whose background is in accounting. "But I'm interested in fundraising as a career, so this has been a welcome change for me," she says.

One of the team's recent projects was to create and distribute a survey for Alumni Association members to get a feel for which services alumni want and need. "We're using the feedback from that survey to build the Web site, refine what's in the newsletter, design our communications with alumni and structure reunions and other activities," MaryPat says. The survey is posted on the Rush Web site at www.rush.edu/alumni.

Office of Alumni Relations

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Abby Peterson Vlahos Assistant Director Abby Peterson@rush.edu

Marva Starks Assistant Director Marva_B_Starks@rush.edu

Katie Madden Development Assistant Katie_Madden@rush.edu

The new face of graduate medical education

Larry J. Goodman, MD, the Henry P. Russe, MD, Dean of Rush Medical College and Senior Vice President of Medical Affairs

There was a great deal of excitement at match day this past July. Rush Medical College enjoyed the best match in its history, with all of our senior medical students matching into a career specialty of choice. That's quite a coup, and our students are to be commended. This year, 31,956 applicants competed for 20,642 postgraduate, year-1 positions nationwide, and approximately 94 percent of United States senior medical students were matched.

The main source of funding for graduate medical education nationally is the Medicare Program. Through a complex funding formula — based largely on the Medicare activity in the hospital — programs have historically had an incentive to grow. Hospitals in the United States have received an average of about \$70,000 for each resident in an approved program. But changes in funding have reversed this growth trend somewhat.

And funding isn't the only thing that's changed. Unlike the days when many of us were applying for residencies, the entire application process is now Web-based, although most programs still include an interview as a key part of the evaluations.

Starting this year the Web will be used not only for applications, but for teaching purposes as well. Rush trains more than 600 residents and fellows, and, unlike the medical school, each of these programs has different curricular and training goals and requirements. The most common method of accreditation is through the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) and its Residency Review Committees. All of our programs eligible for accreditation have attained this status.

Now, through a partnership with the University of Illinois, house officers at Rush will receive Web-based instruction in those phases of training that are common to all programs: patient care, medical knowledge, practice-based learning and improvement, interpersonal and communication skills, professionalism and systems-based practice. These "core competencies" were developed for all physicians, including those in training, by the ACGME and the American Board of Medical Specialties. The online instruction program will be phased in over the next two years to eventually include all graduate trainees. Our GME office tracks residents through every rotation, monitors on-call facili-



Larry J. Goodman, MD

ties and works with program directors to ensure that our trainees meet all accreditation requirements and are trained in a supportive environment. This entire enterprise is managed by associate dean Thomas Deutsch, MD, chairman of ophthalmology and class of 1979. Special recognition should also be given to Deborah Mancilla, who for the last 20 years has provided excellent guidance to all of our residents and fellows. After this year, she will be retiring and will be sorely missed.

Melody Cobleigh continued from page 1

"Dr. Cobleigh exists as a remarkable role model who has combined her talents to become an outstanding doctor, teacher and scientific investigator," says Stuart Levin, MD, chairman of the Department of Internal Medicine. "We at Rush and our extended community at large are blessed to have her."

Even more impressive than the accolades are the many patients, such as Jean Boyll, who pay tribute to Cobleigh's work every day — by living their lives to the fullest. But Cobleigh is quick to point out that without financial aid and scholar-

ships, she, like many others, would never have had the chance to become a doctor and make a difference. "Obviously, you have to do the work and make the grades," she says. "But to be denied an education just because you don't have the money, now that's a crime."

"Dr. Cobleigh exists
as a remarkable role model
who has combined her talents
to become an outstanding
doctor, teacher and
scientific investigator,"

- Stuart Levin, MD



Cobleigh receives the 2001 Distinguished Alumna Award from awards co-chair Henry Danko, MD '76

Class of 2001 gift will keep on giving by Patrick Kelly

At Rush, tradition dictates that the treasurer of the Note Taking Club uses any funds left over in the account at the end of the school year for a class party.

But the 2001 treasurer, Sudeep Taksali, MD '01, had a higher purpose in mind. Since there are plenty of parties throughout the year, especially around graduation, Taksali believed the leftover money could be put to better use by making a charitable donation.

Taksali pulled together a few ideas for causes and put it to a vote. Overwhelmingly, the Class of 2001 decided to donate the money to the Karen Goldman Fund, a memorial



Sudeep Taksali, MD '01, proudly presents the Class of 2001 gift to Rush Medical College dean Larry J. Goodman, MD. The money goes to the Karen Goldman Fund.

fund established in memory of a fellow Rush University medical student.

In March 2000, Karen was struck by a car and killed as she crossed a street near Rush. She was due to graduate from the College of Medicine that spring, and her tragic death forged a bond among her classmates and inspired them to create a memorial fund in her honor. Following the example set by Karen's class, Taksali, on behalf of this year's class, presented a check for \$1,250 to Rush Medical College dean Larry J. Goodman, MD, at the Alumni Banquet during Reunion 2001.

"I think it's a wonderful precedent," said Alumni Association president Joseph Bernardini, MD '75. "The Class of 2001 took the opportunity to give

back to Rush as they graduated and moved on to another level. Their generous gift will strengthen Karen's legacy by ensuring that the good work she did continues; I can't think of a better way to honor her memory."

My goal: to bring you closer to Rush

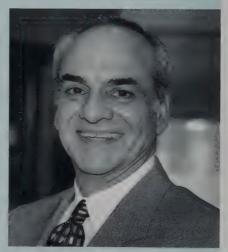
Joseph Bernardini, MD, Alumni Association President

How I feel about Rush — that's the theme of this first column. How *you* feel about Rush — that will be the theme of my presidency.

I truly enjoy my life in medicine, and I am grateful to Rush for helping mold me into the physician I have become. But it is not just the education and training — the opportunity that I am thankful for. What has kept me connected to Rush all these years is the feeling I got the moment I walked through the door for my interview: a welcoming, friendly, helpful feeling that stayed with me from that first day onward and was a part of every relationship I formed at Rush — with my teachers. with staff and with my fellow students. So many of those wonderful friendships, to say nothing of my love affair with the city, continue to this day. That's why, each and every spring, you will find me back in Chicago and back on campus for reunion. My affection for Rush also made it easy for me to recommend the school to my son Brad, who received his MD from Rush in 1999

Yet I also remember, as I'm sure you do, that medical school was hardly a pleasure cruise. Good times and great friends aside, there was more than enough stress to go around, and each and every one of us had to make sacrifices. But like the memories we now treasure, those hard times can also serve as an inspiration to strengthen our connection to Rush.

With tuition costs continuing to skyrocket, today's students are making unprecedented sacrifices for their medical education. Two of my predecessors, Harold Kessler, MD, and Paul Jones, MD, spoke passionately and frequently during their presidencies about the need for alumni to lighten students' financial burdens. I echo their calls for your help, but to those calls I add this: over the next two years, I will work tirelessly to rekindle your passion for Rush, and to hopefully ignite a few new flames. For while it is important to focus on the present, and to continue proving and improving ourselves both professionally and personally, we must also remember



Joseph Bernardini, MD '75

where we come from. That's how Rush will remain a friendly and welcoming institution — and keep on attracting the best and brightest students for generations to come.

Rush welcomes back alumni for a rollicking Reunion 2001











(1) Classmates Thomas A. Deutsch, MD '79, and Phyllis C. Block, MD '79, chat with former Alumni Association president Paul J. Jones, MD '83, at the Benjamin Rush Society reception and annual meeting. (2) Jules Eckersley, MD '01, enjoys herself at the Commencement Banquet. (3) Wearing glasses that would make Harry Caray proud, Marius Tijunelis, MD '01, shares entries from his diary of life at Rush, while fellow members of the Class of 2001 and friends (4) share a few laughs at the banquet. (5) Having a blast at the Class Party watching the Chicago Fire play soccer are (r-I) Neal Devitt, MD '81, and his wife, Paula, and Anna March (wife of Robert March, MD '81) and her children. (6) Benjamin Rush Society chairperson Karen Weinstein, MD '83 (left), congratulates the newest Benjamin Rush Society member, Catherine A. Dimou, MD '91.





Class Notes

On this page, Rush Medical College alumni from around the globe share their professional and personal achievements. To let your classmates learn what you've been up to, fill out the "What's New With You?" card on page 7 of this issue or write to: the Alumni Association of Rush Medical College, 1700 W. Van Buren St., Suite 250, Chicago, IL 60612. Or send e-mail to: MaryPat Mauro@rush.edu

1920s

ESTHER SOMERFELD, MD '26, MA, celebrated her 100th birthday in Los Angeles on July 2 in grand style. "My daughter, Emile Jacobson, who is the grandmother of my two greatgrandsons, made my birthday a very festive occasion; 140 persons came to my home to celebrate," she writes. "And by the way, when my back doesn't hurt, I'm as perky as ever." Esther was one of only 40 women — out of 400 students — attending Rush Medical College at that time. She met her husband, Eugene Ziskind, MD '24,



Esther Somerfield, MD '26, recently celebrated her 100th birthday.

while she was a pre-med student and he was working in the biological sciences library at the University of Chicago. They shared an interest in neurology and were pioneers in the then fledgling specialty of psychiatry. Happily married for 66 years, they often worked side by side until Gene's death in 1993.

1980s

PAUL J. JONES, MD '83, received the Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey 2001 Humanism in Medicine Award for dedication and outstanding compassion in health care delivery. He also received an Award of Recognition for his many years of service to the Alumni Association. Jones is the immediate past president of the Alumni Association.

GARY A. KAUFMAN, MD '88, received the Berner Foundation Award for Excellence in Primary Care Teaching from Evanston Northwestern Healthcare Department of Medicine. He was recently appointed instructor of clinical medicine at Northwestern University Medical School.

In Memoriam

1930s

BERNARDINE SIEBERS DE VAL-OIS, MD '35, FRCS, of Colorado Springs, Colo., June 2001. "Dr. Bernie," as she was affectionately known, was an ear, nose and throat surgeon and missionary for the Reformed Church in America in India for 25 years. She became a fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons in Canada in 1944 and later served as head of the department of ENT at the Christian Medical College and Hospital in Vellore, S. India. In 1946, she and her late husband established the Agricultural Institute, which became the pilot program for World Neighbors International. She was one of only three women in the Rush Medical College Class of 1935.

ANDREW VICTOR GRINLEY, MD '37, Edina, Minn., May 2001.

1940s

NATHAN SHLIM, MD '41, of Portland, Ore., March 2001.

VINTON HODGE WRIGHT, MD '41, of Dana Point, Calif., June 2001.

1970s

JOSEPH DONOFRIO, MD '78, of Waukesha, Wisc., August 2001.

Former Residents

RICHARD A SCOTT, MD, of Oak Lawn, Ill., August 2000.

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Name	Class Year
Specialty/Subspecialty	
Preferred Address	☐ Home ☐ Office ☐ New?
City	State Zip
Office Phone	Home Phone
E-Mail	

We ask that all alumni who have e-mail please SEND US YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS.

We're compiling an e-mail database that will enable us to improve our communications with alumni — from giving you important details about reunion to notifying you of special events. So please be sure to include your e-mail address when you fill out this "What's New With You?" card, or simply send an e-mail to the address above. Thank you for your cooperation.

Distinguished Alumnus Award Nominations

The Distinguished Alumnus Award of Rush Medical College was established in 1968 to honor alumni who have given distinguished service to the profession of medicine. The award is presented annually by the members of the Alumni Association to a graduate who has brought distinction to the college through broadly recognized professional accomplishments. It is the highest honor that the Alumni Association can bestow upon one of its own. The award is presented each year at the Commencement Banquet as part of reunion weekend festivities.

Nominations/Voting To expand our list of nominees, we turn to you for help in identifying additional candidates for the ballot. We encourage all alumni to take the opportunity to nominate a fellow graduate worthy of distinction. Once nominations are received, nominees will be notified and asked to send pertinent information to the Office of Alumni Relations.

Please use the form below to nominate an alum who has brought distinction and honor to the medical profession and to Rush Medical College. All nominations are due by December 3, 2001.

Distinguished Alumnus	ard Nominee
CANDIDATE:	
RATIONALE:	
NOMINATED BY:	CLASS:

Rush WIII

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Alumni Calendar

Meetings, Special Lectures and Events

Rush University Continuing Medical Education Programs

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Endowed Professorship Lecture Series of Rush University

The Endowed Professorship Lecture Series provides a forum for gifted faculty members who hold endowed chairs to share information about their research with colleagues, other members of the Rush family and the community at large.

The final lecture of the 2001 series will be held on Tuesday, November 27, 4 p.m., Searle Conference Center, 5th Floor, 1725 West Harrison Street

Lecturer: John W. Polley, MD, the John W. Curtin, MD, Professor and Chairman of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

Topic: "Plastic Surgery: Looking Back, Looking Ahead"

Eleventh Annual Medical Staff-Faculty Dinner Dance

Date: January 19, 2002

Time: Reception, 6 p.m.

Dinner and dancing, 7 p.m.

Location: The Four Seasons

Hotel-Chicago 120 East Delaware

Tickets are \$200 per person. Proceeds support the Medical Staff Faculty Student Loan Fund for Rush Medical College.

Contact: Joyce Walsh at (312)942-6894

Meetings/Events sponsored by the Alumni Association of Rush Medical College

Alumni Weekend 2002

Dates: June 6, 7 and 8 Location: Various sites around Chicago

Reunion Activities

Thursday, June 6

- 4 p.m. Meeting of the Executive Council
- 6 p.m. Benjamin Rush Society Reception and Annual Meeting (by invitation only)

Friday, June 7 (Alumni Day)

- 8 a.m Grand Rounds
- 9 a.m. Clinicopathological Conference (CPC)
- 10 a.m. Brunch with the Dean and Annual Meeting of the Alumni Association
- 1 p.m. Rush Surgical Society Meeting
- 6 p.m. Commencement Reception and Banquet (Cocktails/Dinner/Dancing)

Saturday, June 8

2 p.m. - Rush University Commencement

For additional information, contact Marva Starks, Office of Alumni Relations at 312-942-7227, or send e-mail to Marva_B_Starks@rush.edu.